

HOWARD COUNTY BRAC TASK FORCE

BRAC BIT: #61

DATE: 21 December 2009

SUBJECT(S): Events, BBI Improvement, CYBER BITS

POINT OF CONTACT: Kent Menser (410-313-6521) kmenser@howardcountymd.gov

1. Upcoming Events:

- a. BRAC Business Initiative-In Progress Review (IPR) # 4
 - i. Date: 13 January, 8 AM to 10 AM
 - ii. Location: Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Pl # 2
Columbia, MD 21045-3728 (410) 730-4610
 - iii. Agenda:
 - Defense Contractor Presentation and In Progress Review
 - Networking Between BBI Partners before and after the presentations
- b. NSA Contracting Information at Fort Meade Alliance Event/Luncheon
 - i. Date: 12 January, 11 AM to 1PM
 - ii. Location: Mega Center, 8210 Dorsey Run Road (Heads up, your satellite navigation may send you to wrong location!)
 - iii. Agenda: **Guest Speaker: Jennifer Walsmith, NSA Senior Acquisition Executive; information, networking and outreach**
 - iv. Register: Registration accepted by credit card at www.ftmeadealliance.org (click on Event Registration under Quick Links on home page)
 - v. Special Instructions: No walk-ins, no electronic devices, valid picture ID
 - vi. Costs: \$30 Members, \$45 Non-members (Problems? Call Kent.)

2. Discussion:

- a. BRAC Business Initiative:
 - i. Status: 370 Members; growing and networking. Join us!
 - ii. BBI TRACKS: All Test Companies will meet with TRACK Sponsors and start the TRACK process between now and 8 January 2010.
 - iii. BBI Communications: Improved communications between Test Companies
 - iv. Feedback format: Currently being applied by our Test Companies and recently developed for our Advisory Companies
- b. Please Understand:
 - i. The primary role of a Test Company is to provide the BBI Team a vehicle with which to identify and document the Fort Meade related contracting environment. This documentation will add more transparency to the environment and more integrity to the information required by small and minority businesses to achieve a satisfactory level of success.
 - ii. Our BBI actions may take us from the 15% solution to the 45% solution, but no guaranteed contracts or miracles. Small businesses perform the miracles; the BBI is attempting to assist by identifying and defining the terrain.

3. Cyber Bits:

Statement for the Record by Mr. Richard C. Schaeffer, Information Assurance Director, NSA, before the Senate Judiciary's Sub-Committee on Terrorism and Homeland Security, 17 November 2009: "There are no 'Silver Bullets' when it comes to cyber security, but over time, increased awareness of cybersecurity issues, new standards, better education, expanded information sharing, more uniform practices, and improved technology can and does make a meaningful difference....."